REMARKS

In the Office Action dated May 27, 2003, claims 1-4 and 13-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Urhan; and claims 5-12 and 25-32 were rejected under § 103 over Urhan in view of DeWitt.

Urhan does not teach the following elements of claim 1: (1) partitioning the first and second tuples (of respective first and second tables) into portions, (2) redistributing the first and second tuples to plural nodes according to the partitioning, and (3) hash joining the first and second tuples to produce result tuples as the first and second tuples are being distributed to the plural nodes. Urhan describes a type of symmetric hash join (referred to as XJoin) in which tuples are received from remote sources connected through a wide are network or the Internet. Figure 1 of Urhan shows the remote sources as being source1 and source2. The tuples from the remote sources are received by a system that includes two hash tables, one for each source. Urhan, at 4. However, there is no mention whatsoever that tuples associated with first and second tables are *partitioned, and redistributed to plural nodes according to the partitioning.* The partitioning referred to in Section 2.1 of Urhan relates to splitting inputs from the sources into a number of partitions based on a hash function, with each partition composed of a memory-resident portion and a disk-resident portion. However, this partitioning refers to the partitions of a hash table, and not to the partitioning of tuples into plural portions from which redistribution of the tuples to plural nodes can occur.

Moreover, because Urhan does not disclose redistributing first and second tuples to plural nodes according to a partitioning, Urhan also does not disclose hash joining the first and second tuples to produce result tuples as the first and second tuples *are being redistributed to the plural nodes.*

Therefore, Urhan does not anticipate claim 1.

Independent claim 13 is also not disclosed by Urhan. Claim 13 recites a database system that includes a plurality of nodes and instructions for enabling the database system to store first tuples in a first table distributed across the plurality of nodes, store second tuples in a second table distributed across the plurality of nodes, partition the first and second tuples into plural portions, redistribute the first and second tuples to the plurality of nodes according to the

partitioning, and hash join the first and second tuples to produce result tuples as the first and second tuples are being redistributed to the plurality of nodes. None of these elements are disclosed by Urhan.

With respect to independent claim 23, Urhan does not disclose the partitioning, redistributing, and hash joining acts (as discussed above with respect to independent claim 1).

The dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as the corresponding independent claims.

In view of the foregoing, all claims are in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension of time fees, and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1673 (9558).

Respectfully submitted,

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